FNS Responses to February/March 2012 Midwest and Southeast Severe Storms and Tornadoes

As of March 23, 2012, FNS is providing Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) benefits (to new D-SNAP recipients and to ongoing SNAP recipients¹) to help disaster survivors in Indiana and Kentucky in response to the severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes that occurred across the Midwest and Southeast from February 29-March 3, 2012.

So far, FNS has provided disaster food assistance, including SNAP replacement benefits and USDA Foods for congregate feeding, to disaster survivors in 61 counties and 5 States in response to these severe storms and tornadoes.

Specific FNS disaster food assistance responses by State, include:

Alabama

The State received FNS approval:

 On March 7, 2012, to extend the time current SNAP recipients in Limestone and Madison Counties have to report loss of food purchased with February SNAP benefits and to request replacement benefits by submitting signed affidavits of loss to their local SNAP office. SNAP recipients in Limestone and Madison Counties have until March 22, 2012, to submit affidavits of loss and request replacement benefits.

Alabama Department of Human Resources SNAP Information:

http://dhr.alabama.gov/services/Food Assistance/Food Assistance Division.aspx

FEMA declared disaster counties:

http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=16192

Illinois

The State received FNS approval:

 On March 7, 2012, to extend the time current SNAP recipients in Saline County have to report loss of food purchased with February SNAP benefits and to request replacement benefits by submitting signed affidavits of loss to their local SNAP office. SNAP recipients in Saline County have until March 22, 2012, to submit affidavits or loss and request replacement benefits.

Illinois Department of Human Services SNAP Information:

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30357

Indiana

As of March 20, 2012, FNS has provided \$229,570 in D-SNAP benefits to 491 households and 1,392 people in 6 Indiana counties affected by the severe storms and tornadoes. The State received FNS approval:

• On March 12 and 13, 2012, to operate a Disaster D-SNAP in 12 zipcodes within the following six counties: Clark, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott, Warrick, and Washington. The 12 zip codes, include 47106, 47126, 47163, 47141, 47143, 47138, 47023, 47037, 47147, 47630, 47120, and 47165. D-SNAP applications will be taken from March 14-19, 2012, for six consecutive days. Ongoing SNAP households that resided in the 12 zip codes at the time of the disaster may apply for supplemental benefits by completing an application and interview at the D-SNAP sites. Only individuals who suffered damage or disaster losses from the disaster and lived or worked in the 12 zip codes will be eligible for D-SNAP certification. D-SNAP application and issuance will occur at local SNAP offices in all six counties from 8am-

¹ D-SNAP supplemental benefits are provided to eligible, ongoing SNAP recipients to bring their benefits up to the maximum allotment for their household size to provide equity in benefits with new D-SNAP SNAP households.

4:30pm as well as at a One Stop Shop (OSS) for Tornado Disaster Relief at Indiana Vocational Technical Community College from 8am-8pm. Specific D-SNAP application locations can be found at:

http://www.in.gov/activecalendar/EventList.aspx?view=EventDetails&eventidn=54466&information_id=109268

On March 7, 2012, to extend the time current SNAP recipients in the following 11 counties have to report loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits that were issued between February 1 and March 2, 2012, and to request replacement benefits by submitting signed affidavits of loss to their local SNAP office: Clark, Gibson, Harrison, Jefferson, Posey, Ripley, Scott, Shelby, Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Washington. SNAP recipients in these counties have until March 22, 2012, to submit affidavits or loss and request replacement benefits.

Status of USDA Foods:

From March 12-13, 2012, the West Clarke Community School Corporation provided USDA Foods to the Henryville Community Church in Clarke County, Indiana. Approximately, 10,828 pounds of Foods valued at over \$10,000 are being provided to the Church to support congregate feeding efforts.

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration SNAP Information:

http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/2691.htm

FEMA Declared disaster counties:

http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=16292

Kentucky

The State received FNS approval:

- On March 23, 2012, to extend operation of D-SNAP and supplemental benefit issuance (to ongoing SNAP households) in the following eight counties: Johnson, Laurel, Lawrence, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, Pendleton, and Wolfe. D-SNAP applications will be accepted through March 26-28, 2012, at local SNAP offices in these eight counties.
- On March 22, 2012, to extend the time current SNAP recipients in Johnson, Laurel, Lawrence, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, Pendleton, and Wolfe Counties have to report loss of food purchased with February and March SNAP benefits and to request replacement benefits by submitting signed affidavits of loss to their local SNAP office. SNAP recipients in these counties have until March 30, 2012, to submit affidavits or loss and request replacement benefits.
- On March 15, 2012, to expand operation of its D-SNAP and supplemental benefit issuance (to ongoing SNAP recipients) in five additional counties, including Grayson, Larue, Ohio, Russell, and Trimble. D-SNAP and supplemental benefit applications will be accepted no earlier than March 17, 2012, and the State expects the last day for application will be March 26, 2012. Applicants must meet the same criteria for their county as the criteria listed below for the original 16 counties approved for D-SNAP and supplemental benefit issuance.
- On March 13, 2012, to operate a D-SNAP and issue supplemental benefits due to the severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding that began in the following 16 counties on February 29, 2012: Bath, Campbell, Carroll, Grant, Johnson, Kenton, Laurel, Lawrence, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Pendleton, Rowan, and Wolfe. D-SNAP applications will be accepted beginning on Friday, March 16, 2012, through March 23, 2012 at local SNAP offices. Applications will be accepted on Saturday. Only households who resided or worked in the 16 counties at the time of the disaster may be eligible for the D-SNAP. The State will issue supplements to ongoing SNAP households that requested replacements by completing a signed affidavit. Ongoing SNAP clients who do not request replacement benefits but who experienced adverse effects other than food loss as a result of the disaster may file an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related

expenses and request a supplemental issuance.

- On March 12, 2012, to allow SNAP recipients to purchase hot foods and hot food products with SNAP benefits from SNAP retailers in counties that receive a Federal disaster declaration with individual assistance through March 31, 2012.
- On March 7, 2012, to extend the time current SNAP recipients in the following 32 counties have to report loss of food purchased with February SNAP benefits and to request replacement benefits by submitting signed affidavits of loss to their local SNAP office: Ballard, Bath, Breckenridge, Campbell, Carroll, Carter and Garrard (approved 3-13-12), Grant, Grayson, Hardin, Harlan (approved 3-13-12), Hopkins, Johnson, Kenton, Laurel, Larue (approved 3-13-12), Lawrence, McCracken, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Metcalf, Montgomery, Morgan, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Owsley, Pendleton, Rowan, Russell, Trimble, and Wolfe. SNAP recipients in these counties have until March 22, 2012, to submit affidavits or loss and request replacement benefits.

Status of Special Nutrition Assistance Programs:

- On March 6, 2012, the Commonwealth received FNS approval to operate a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) at a local school site in Martin County beginning on March 7, 2012.
- Beginning March 7, 2012, WIC services will be provided to Morgan County clients via a mobile unit, since the county WIC Office was destroyed.

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services SNAP Information:

http://chfs.ky.gov/dcbs/dfs/foodstampsebt.htm

FEMA declared disaster counties:

http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=16272

Tennessee

On March 22, 2012, to operate a D-SNAP and issue supplemental benefits due to the severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and flooding which struck the following 10 counties on February 29, 2012: Bradley, Claiborne, Cumberland, DeKalb, Hamilton, Jackson, McMinn, Monroe, Overton, and Polk. D-SNAP applications will be accepted in local county offices from March 29 – April 5, 2012, except on Sunday, April 1, 2012. D-SNAP applications will be accepted on Saturday, March 31, 2012. Ongoing SNAP households that resided in the 10 counties at the time of the disaster may apply for supplemental benefits by completing an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related expenses.

Tennesee Department of Human Services Food Stamp Information:

http://www.tn.gov/foodstamps

FEMA Declared disaster counties:

http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=16333

West Virginia

On March 30, 2012 to extend the time current SNAP recipients have to report loss of food purchased with March SNAP benefits through March 31, 2012, for Lincoln and Wayne counties and through April 6, 2012, for Logan and Mingo counties. Replacements will be authorized for the amount of the loss, not to exceed the monthly allotment for the household, after receipt of a signed affidavit which will be filed in the case record.

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources SNAP Information:

http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/family_assistance/fs.asp

FEMA declared disaster counties:

http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=16352

*If you think you may be eligible for disaster food assistance in your State, please contact your local State agency for application requirements, date and site information: http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/map.htm.

*Items noted in red indicate operating or planned State Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (D-SNAPs).